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N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the United States Patent Application of:

Docket No.:

4258-112

Applicants:

MATO DE LA PAZ, Jose

Conf. No.:

5253

Application No.:

10/540,212

Maria, et al.

Art Unit:

1614

Date Filed:

June 15, 2005

Title:

METHOD OF DIAGNOSING

NON-ALCOHOLIC

STEATOHEPATITIS (NASH)

USING MOLECULAR

MARKERS

Customer No.:

23448

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that I am mailing the attached documents to the Commissioner for Patents on the date specified, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 and Express Mailed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.10.

Karin Szypszak

January 12, 2006 Date

EO 007 476 298 US

Express Mail Label Number

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT IN U.S. PATENT APPLICATION NO. 10/540,212

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified U.S. patent application, please amend the application, as set out in **Section I** (Amendment to the Claims) hereof. Remarks concerning these amendments to the claims are set out in **Section II** (Remarks) hereof.